Bishop James appointed an Archdeacon to take on the role of safeguarding lead and to chair the Safeguarding Executive Committee (SEC). The SEC is made up of representatives from the Diocese and Cathedral who organise and implement safeguarding practices and training.

In 2017 the Diocese undertook 1,433 DBS checks for paid workers and volunteers. 12 certificates contained information which requiring the Safeguarding Executive Committee to undertake a risk assessment. Following risk assessment the Safeguarding Executive Committee advised that one applicant should not be allowed to work with children.

Implementation of the new national safeguarding training modules commenced.

14 courses were delivered and a total of 405 staff attended core safeguarding module 3 (C3). C3 is foundation/leadership training for clergy, Licensed Lay Minister and those commissioned/authorised by the Bishop. The specialist module safer recruitment (S1) was incorporated into C3, in order to streamline the training and make it more cost effective/efficient.

Core safeguarding module (C0) commenced online. C0 is basic awareness training for anyone to undertake. In 2017, 326 staff/volunteers completed C0 training online.

The Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) remains ongoing and information has been sent to the IICSA as and when requested. The last request was for financial expenditure on safeguarding since 2010.

The Social Care Institute for Excellence, commissioned by the National Safeguarding Team, as part of the Archbishops Council undertook an independent audit of diocesan safeguarding. The report can be located on the diocesan website.

A new safeguarding adviser (Greg Barry) was appointed to assist with the increasing workload and new training modules. Greg’s role has developed since his appointment and Greg provides safeguarding advice to the Cathedral alongside his diocesan commitments.

2018 started with the appointment of a safeguarding administrator, providing support to the safeguarding advisers.

A further 4 courses have been arranged for C3/S1 training and C0 can still be accessed online.
Core Safeguarding Module foundation safeguarding training (C1) has commenced and is available online via the Diocesan website for any workers/volunteers who have safeguarding responsibilities or has contact with children, young people and/or adults who may be vulnerable.

Core safeguarding module leadership safeguarding training (C2) is for all those workers who have safeguarding leadership responsibilities or responsibility for leading activities involving children, young people and/or adults who may be vulnerable. C2 will commence shortly and 2 courses have so far been arranged.

Core safeguarding module foundation/leadership for Bishops, Deans and Senior Staff (C4) will take place on the 8th May 2018.

Bishop James has appointed a Bishop’s Safeguarding Advisory Panel to provide professional support and advice to the diocesan safeguarding advisers and take a strategic overview of safeguarding throughout the diocese. The panel is made up of representative from statutory agencies; such as police, social services and health and they are due to hold their first meeting on the 26th February 2018.